



British Association of Film,
Television and Screen Studies

BAFTSS Special Interest Groups Newsletter - issue 3. October 2020

The BAFTSS Special Interest Groups (SIGS) network began in December 2016 and currently consists of 19 groups, each of which explores different theories, histories and approaches to film, television and screen studies. The SIGs propose panels specific to their research areas for the BAFTSS Annual Conference and organise events including the *LGBTQ+ Screen Studies SIG reading group*, the *Research Methodologies for Screen Industries Workshop* and *Philosophical Thinking and the Films of Kelly Reichardt* seminar. The SIGs also organise Postgraduate Researcher and Early Career Researcher training events and public lectures. **To join or convene a SIG** you must be a **member of BAFTSS** - there is an option to join one or more SIGs through the BAFTSS subscription process.

The [BAFTSS SIG Newsletters](#) include details of forthcoming events and past activities that have been organised by the [BAFTSS SIGS](#) and those that are supported by the [BAFTSS SIG funding scheme](#).

Thanks to all of our Special Interest Groups for their continued and amazing new work!

BAFTSS Executive Committee. BAFTSS SIG Coordinator Dr Liz Watkins. Contact: e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk

Calls and Funding:

[CFP: BAFTSS Annual Conference: 'Time and the Body in Film and Television Studies' 7th-9th April 2021](#) hosted by University of Southampton and Centre for International Film Research. (online).

BAFTSS Special Interest Groups are invited to organise a conference session (a panel of 3-4 short presentations, a roundtable discussion, or workshop). SIG sessions can focus on the research interests specific to each group and /or those that explore the intersections of their research with the conference theme. The SIG conference sessions can lead into the SIG annual meeting as an opportunity to discuss research, future events, and publication plans.

There is a small amount of [funding available](#) to support the inclusion of speakers who do not currently hold BAFTSS membership, but who wish to participate in an Official BAFTSS SIG Conference Session. The funding is for 1 speaker or discussant per panel and is supported by the BAFTSS SIG Funding Scheme.

[BAFTSS SIG Funding Scheme 1st January 2021- 31st December 2022](#) is now open to enable SIGs to begin planning events into 2021 and 2022. [Full details of the scheme are online](#). Each SIG is eligible to apply for £250p.a. This amount can roll over to a maximum of £500 if funding was not agreed for the previous year. Applications are assessed on the basis of academic merit, the criteria on the form, and availability of funds.

New Conveners.

Transnational Film and Television SIG coordinators Rajinder Dudrah and Deborah Shaw - are stepping down. Our thanks for all of their work in the first few years of the SIG. Welcome to Dr Maryam Ghorbankarimi (Lancaster University) as new convener joining Yael Freidman

New Horror Studies SIG: welcome to conveners: Kate Egan (Northumbria University), Shellie McMurdo (University of Roehampton/University of Hertfordshire), and Laura Mee (University of Hertfordshire).

Animation SIG Convener Malcolm Cook (University of Southampton) is joined by Sam Summers (Middlesex University) and Jemma Gilboy (Nottingham Trent University). Our thanks to Dr Eve Benhamou for her work with the SIG. Eve now joins the BAFTSS Executive Committee in the new role of representative for Fixed Term Contracts, Independent, Affiliated Lecturers and Researchers.

Stardom and Performance Studies SIG. Welcome to Lisa Duffy (Queen Mary University London) who is joining convener Julie Lobalzo Wright (University of Warwick).

French and Francophone Cinema SIG: thanks to Phil Powrie for his work as he steps down. Welcome to new conveners Kate Ince (University of Birmingham), Ginette Vincendeau (King's College London), and Will Higbee (University of Exeter).

Forthcoming SIG Events

BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG. [19:00-20:30 Wednesday 28th October 2020 "This totally deserted studio":](#)

[A Ghostwatch roundtable retrospective'](#) The BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG organises a monthly online event. Just in time for Halloween and in anticipation of its broadcast anniversary, the SIG has organised a roundtable discussion on

faux documentary/reality horror *Ghostwatch* (BBC, 1992). The panel will explore its controversial reception, subsequent attempts to recreate its distinctive style, and its lasting cultural impact.

BAFTSS Performance and Stardom SIG blog: includes Elisabetta Girelli (University of St Andrews) '[Silent Soliloquy and the Afterlife of Film: Vladimir Mayakovsky in *Baryshnya i Khuligan / The Young Lady and the Hooligan* \(1918\)](#)' (CW: [description and images of suicide](#)) and Lisa Duffy on '[Walt Disney: Studio Head as Star](#)', originally presented at the [Reinventing and Reinvigorating Stardom symposium](#) 2019. **SIG News & discussions:** [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

LGBTQ+ Screen Studies SIG Reading Group: Registration: lgbtgscreenstudies@gmail.com **News:** [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

- Jamie Hakim (University of East Anglia) 'The Spornosexual': The Affective Contradictions of Male Body-Work in Neoliberal Digital Culture.' 18:00-19:00 Friday 30th October 2020.
- Hongwei Bao (University of Nottingham) 'The Queer Global South: Transnational Video Activism between China and Africa'. 18:00-19:00 Friday 27th November 2020.
- Susan Potter (University of Sydney) 'Traces, Specks and Glimmers: Regulating Same-Sex Attractions'. 19:30-20:30 Friday 18th December 2020.

Film Philosophy SIG. *Philosophical Thinking and the Films of Kelly Reichardt, University of Exeter.* This one day symposium on the films of Kelly Reichardt brings together a range of local and regional scholars to engage in an open and enriching dialogue about Reichardt's cinema. **Date:** TBC. 2021. **Contact:** Davina Quinlivan, Kingston University and Dominic Lash, Bristol University.

Practice Research SIG. *Filmmaking in the Academy: Practice/Theory Interventions Symposium, University of West of England.* **Date:** TBC. This one-day symposium is a celebration of filmmaking in the academy in which practice researchers are invited to screen their work whilst research dimensions will be critically explored with a mixed panel of established, early career and PGR researchers from both practice and traditional film studies backgrounds. The event will be rescheduled for 2021 due to COVID -19. **Contact:** Charlotte Crofts charlotte.crofts@uwe.ac.uk

Screening Sex SIG. *Screening Sex Symposium.* A research and networking event at Solent University, Southampton. **Date:** TBC. The symposium has been rescheduled due to COVID-19 pandemic. **Contact:** Donna Peberdy and Darren Kerr darren.kerr@solent.ac.uk

[Past Events: Reports on SIG Projects](#)

This section includes reports and photographs from BAFTSS SIG events held between January 2020 and October 2020. Information on SIG events in December 2019 and before can be found in the [BAFTSS SIG Newsletter Issue 1 \(October 2019\)](#) and [BAFTSS SIG Newsletter Issue 2 \(May 2020\)](#). Reports from the BAFTSS Event Grant projects and BAFTSS PGR workshops can be found on the [BAFTSS Funding reports page](#).

[Girlhood & Contemporary French Cinema Studies](#) Symposium organized by Sue Harris (Queen Mary University of London) and Ginette Vincendeau (King's College London) for the French and Francophone Cinema SIG. Report by Suzanne Pr sumey (King's College London).

[Methodologies in Screen Industries Research](#) Watershed Cinema and Digital Creativity Centre, January 2020 included a keynote address by Professor Annette Hill (Lund University, Sweden, and Visiting Professor at King's College London" on 'Media Industries and Audience Research: an analytic dialogue on the value of engagement'.



Image credits: (clockwise from left) LGBTQ+ Screen Studies SIG; BAFTSS Transnational Film & TV Studies SIG; Screen Industries Methodologies Symposium, Watershed in Bristol; BAFTSS Performance & Stardom Studies SIG.

BAFTSS is committed to helping its communities to develop strong, positive action around issues of equality, diversity and inclusivity. These values are displayed in the [Inclusivity Statement displayed on the BAFTSS Homepage](#) and should be embedded in all that we do. BAFTSS work to be mindful of issues of race, gender, LGBTQI+ status and disability when planning events, inviting speakers, in the constitution of conference panels and symposiums, and by being attentive to potential access issues of its communities.